

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A communication apparatus comprising:
  - receiving means for receiving a plurality of image data and accompanying communication information;
  - primary storage means for temporarily storing
  - 10 said image data and communication information, said primary storage means being adapted for high-speed forwarding;
  - secondary storage means having a storage capacity greater than that of said primary storage
  - 15 means;
  - forwarding means for converting said image data to a standard format and forwarding said standard format image data together with said communication information;
  - 20 network communication means connected to a server apparatus via a network for transmitting said standard format image data together with said communication information to said server apparatus; and
  - retransmitting means operable in case of a
  - 25 failure of transmission, wherein said retransmitting

means saves said image data and communication  
information stored in said primary storage means in said  
secondary storage means, deletes said image data from  
said primary storage means, converts the saved image  
5 data into a standard format, retransmits the standard  
format image data together with said communication  
information to said server apparatus and repeats  
retransmission in case of a failure of the preceding  
retransmission.

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2. The communication apparatus as claimed in  
15 claim 1, wherein said primary storage means is an SAF  
(Store And Forward) memory and said secondary storage  
means is a hard disk.

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3. A program for transmitting image data to a  
server apparatus, said program causing a computer to  
function as:

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receiving means for receiving a plurality of

image data and accompanying communication information;

primary storage means for temporarily storing  
said image data and communication information, said  
primary storage means being adapted for high-speed  
5 forwarding;

secondary storage means having a storage  
capacity greater than that of said primary storage  
means;

forwarding means for converting said image  
10 data to a standard format and forwarding said standard  
format image data together with said communication  
information;

network communication means connected to a  
server apparatus via a network for transmitting said  
15 standard format image data together with said  
communication information to said server apparatus; and

retransmitting means operable in case of a  
failure of transmission, wherein said retransmitting  
means saves said image data and communication  
20 information stored in said primary storage means in said  
secondary storage means, deletes said image data from  
said primary storage means, converts the saved image  
data into a standard format, retransmits the standard  
format image data together with said communication  
25 information to said server apparatus and repeats

retransmission in case of a failure of the preceding retransmission.

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4. A computer readable medium storing a program for transmitting image data to a server apparatus, said program causing a computer to function

10 as:

receiving means for receiving a plurality of image data and accompanying communication information;

primary storage means for temporarily storing said image data and communication information, the  
15 primary storage means being adapted for high-speed forwarding;

secondary storage means having a storage capacity greater than that of said primary storage means;

20 forwarding means for converting said image data to a standard format and forwarding said standard format image data together with said communication information;

network communication means connected to a  
25 server apparatus via a network for transmitting said

standard format image data together with said  
communication information to said server apparatus; and

retransmitting means operable in case of a  
failure of transmission, wherein said retransmitting  
5 means saves said image data and communication  
information stored in said primary storage means in said  
secondary storage means, deletes said image data from  
said primary storage means, converts the saved image  
data into a standard format, retransmits the standard  
10 format image data together with said communication  
information to said server apparatus and repeats  
retransmission in case of a failure of the preceding  
retransmission.

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5. A method of transmitting image data to a  
server apparatus using a preprogrammed computer, said  
20 method comprising the steps of:

receiving image data and accompanying  
communication information;

storing said image data and communication  
information in a primary storage means adapted for a  
25 high-speed forwarding;

converting said image data to a standard format and forwarding said standard format image data together with said communication information;

carrying out network communications for  
5 transmitting said standard format image data together with said communication information to said server apparatus via a network;

in case of a failure of transmission, saving said image data and communication information stored in  
10 said primary storage means in said secondary storage means having a storage capacity greater than that of said primary storage means and deleting said image data in said primary storage means; and

converting the saved image data into a  
15 standard format, retransmitting the standard format image data together with said communication information to said server apparatus and repeating retransmission in case of a failure of the preceding retransmission.

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6. A communication system comprising:

at least one communication apparatus having a  
25 primary storage means for temporarily storing image data

and accompanying communication information received  
through a public telephone line;

a server apparatus connected to said  
communication apparatus via a network; and

5 at least one user terminal connected to said  
server apparatus via said network,

said communication apparatus having a  
secondary storage means such that said image data and  
accompanying communication information are saved in said  
10 secondary storage means are deleted from said primary  
storage means in case of a failure of a transmission to  
said server apparatus.